connection with the root. I bought the place on which the tree was, in 1885. The tree has borne and ripened oranges every year till 1890. In 1889 a sprout came up from the root. This proved to be a Chinese lemon on which the orange had been grafted. I was not here in 1889. When I arrived in the fall of 1890 I saw that shoots from the orange had been sent out the preceding spring but they had withered and died. The Chinese lemon was very thrifty and full of fruit. It evidently had taken the sap. The struggle was over and the orange was dead. I send you the whole of it with a part of the Chinese lemon shoot. I think it should be preserved, as it is proof positive of the circulation of sap through the heart-wood. It lived, blossomed and bore fruit every year for at least seven years, when there was no connection between the tree and the root, except the heart-wood."—W. WHITMAN BAILEY, *Brown University.*

Helianthus mollis.—Plants which I collected near Odin, Illinois, years ago, and plants from Tennesseee, sent by my friend, Dr. Gattinger, were blooming in my garden the past year. The Tennessee plants flower two weeks before the others, have involucral bracts double the length, and the leaves one-fourth broader, though no longer. The leaves of the Illinois plants are so thick that the nerves can scarcely be seen; the nerves of the other are strongly visible, and there are some other differences.

In these days variations of this character are scarcely worth special note. We find similar variations with any plant in areas of but a few acres in extent if carefully looked for.

In the Illinois plants I have noted that all the first flowers faced the southeast, the first day of opening. This season they all faced the northwest. I might settle the whole story by merely saying, "something in the environment must have influenced all these variations;" but to my mind the term "environment," so frequently used in connection with similar phenomena, is utterly meaningless. It is, however, clear that there are often separate lines of variation in widely separated localities. Sometimes I think we might solve the problem sooner if we were not so easily satisfied with the word "environment." THOMAS MEEHAN, *Germantown, Philadelphia.*

Further notes on the mutilation of flowers by insects.— In the GAZETTE for 1888, p. 39, I state that *Bombus pennsylvanicus* slits the corolla tube to obtain the nectar from *Physostegia Virginiana* and *Mertensia Virginica*. There was a mistake made in copying the name of the insect from the original notes; it should read *Xylocopa virginica*, the Virginia carpenter bee. Since the above mentioned note was pub-